



## 2014 CINARS BIENNALE

**Close to 1,500 participants in Montreal  
and  
a 28% increase in presenters attending the event**

*Montreal, November 24<sup>th</sup> 2014* - The 16<sup>th</sup> CINARS Biennale (**International Exchange for the Performing Arts**), which came to a close on Saturday night with the awards ceremony, has once again had a record-breaking attendance. For the first time ever, CINARS was able to attract more show presenters than touring companies. The number of show presenters attending the event reached 358, which represents a 28% increase in attendance compared to the previous edition. In total, close to 1,500 participants took part in this massive gathering of professionals in the performing arts sector.

### **Awards ceremony**

The **CALQ Award for Best International Tour** is conferred every two years to the Quebec organization that set itself apart with the exceptional quality of a tour outside of Quebec. Presented by the **Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec** and representing an amount of \$10,000, the award was given to **Cirque Alfonse**. **Mr Stéphan La Roche**, CEO of the CALQ stated: "I wish to draw attention to the remarkable efforts of the Cirque Alfonse who seem to be unstoppable. The touring that they undertook in the past two years should yield spectacular results for the organization. This friendly family-run troupe has, without a doubt, positioned itself judiciously in the international contemporary circus scene."

The **Award for Best International Presenter** is conferred to the programmer of a venue or festival that has contributed the most to raising the profile of Canadian artists and artistic companies abroad. This award is accompanied by a grant of \$10,000 offered by the **Canada Council for the Arts**. This grant has the aim of encouraging the hosting and the promotion of a Canadian show in the next two years. This year, this award was given out to **Mr. Jaap Van Baasbank from Julidans Festival** (Netherlands). Mr Baasbank has contributed to the international rise of several Quebec artists including: La La La Human Steps, Marie Chouinard, Robert Lepage, Louise Lecavalier, Frédéric Gravel, Virginie Brunelle and Dave St-Pierre.

The **Achievement Award** is conferred by CINARS to a person who has greatly contributed to raising the profile of the performing arts abroad. The award was granted to **Mrs Barbara Scales**, owner and director of the Latitude 45 Arts Promotion agency. Working in the arts world for the past 35 years, Mrs Scales made this statement: "In the last decades, the arts have been under attack with funding cuts from governments across Europe and at certain levels in Canada. We can thank the public servants working in the arts in Canada, as well as those abroad, for their efforts in supporting the cause of the arts, despite certain governments, which, in the spirit of austerity measures, seem intent on slashing funding for the arts."

The CINARS Biennale has become an essential multidisciplinary event, during which one can develop real international touring opportunities, build long-term relationships with professionals from around the world, as well as keep abreast of the latest cutting-edge developments in the artistic field. The next edition will take place from the 14<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2016.

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U B E R

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